

1925 E
Rural District of South Shields.

Annual Report

ON THE
HEALTH & SANITARY CONDITION
OF THE DISTRICT

BY

WM. ARMSTRONG, L.R.C.P., & S.E., etc.,
*Fellow of the Royal Institute of Public Health,
Medical Officer of Health,*

and

*Medical Superintendent to the Infectious Diseases
Joint Hospital Board, Boldon,*

AND

WILLIAM WELSH, A.R.S.I.,
Sanitary Inspector.

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South Shields :
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SOUTH SHIELDS RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Chairman :

COUNCILLOR J. SUMMERBELL, J.P.

Vice-Chairman :

COUNCILLOR J. C. EDINGTON.

COUN. J. T. BELL.

COUN. R. PARRY.

„ R. HANN.

„ MRS. C. RIDLEY.

„ WM. HOLBURN.

„ J. TRACEY.

Chairman of the Health Committee :

COUNCILLOR R. HANN.

Vice-Chairman :

COUNCILLOR R. PARRY.

Officials, etc.

Clerk to the Council—MR. JOHN OWEN.

Surveyor and Architect—MR. T. E. GILCHRIST,
M.I.M. & C.E.

Medical Officer of Health—WM. ARMSTRONG,
L.R.C.P. & S.E., ETC.

Sanitary Inspector—WM. WELSH, Assoc. R. San. Inst.

Deputy Clerk and Accountant—MR. J. DORMAN.

Assistant Surveyor—MR. T. GOSS.

Infectious Diseases Joint Hospital.

Medical Superintendent—DR. WM. ARMSTRONG.

Matron—MISS MENNELL.

Clerk—MR. WM. ROBSON.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE YEAR 1925.

—o—

To the Rural District Council of South Shields.

—o—

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit to you my Thirty-second Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary Condition of your District for the year 1925. Incorporated with it is the Report of the Sanitary Inspector.

The South Shields Rural District consists of the following Parishes :—

- (a) Boldon.
- (b) Boldon Colliery.
- (c) Whitburn, including Marsden, and Cleadon.
- (d) Monkton and Hedworth.

GENERAL STATISTICS.

—

The Area of the District in Acres is 11,295.

The Population, as estimated by the Registrar-General, is 18,020, and on this figure the Tables in this Report are based.

The Census Population in 1921 was 17,140.

The Estimated Population for the year 1925 is 18,020.

Physical Features and General Character of the Area.

The Rural District is flat and treeless, bounded on the North by Jarrow, on the East by the North Sea, on the South by the Sunderland Rural and Southwick Districts, and on the West by Felling and Chester-le-Street Districts.

Boldon District consists of residential houses, Miners' Houses, Cottages, as well as Farms.

Boldon Colliery is essentially a Colliery population, the situation is flat and damp, with a clay sub-soil.

Whitburn District is composed of residential houses, farms, villages, and Miners' houses. The village of Marsden is exclusively a Mining Village.

Monkton and Hedworth Villages consists of farms, a residential population, and some Miners' Houses.

The sub-soil of the Rural District is Magnesian Limestone, clay, and gravel.

The Census Population in 1921 was 17,140, and in 1911 was 14,481.

In 1911 the whole of the Harton Parish was in the South Shields Rural Area. Now a portion of the Harton District has been added to the South Shields County Borough.

Census Population, 1921.

	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
	9,737	9,367	19,104
Added to South Shields			
County Borough	985	979	1,964
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total Population of Rural			
District	8,752	8,388	17,140
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

Estimated Population for 1925—18,020.

Amount of Poor Law Relief for the District—£14,703.

Number of Inhabited Houses, 1921, was 3804.

TABLE SHEWING NO. OF INHABITED HOUSES FOR THE
PAST 5 YEARS.

<i>Year.</i>	<i>Inhabited Houses.</i>
1925	3,936
1924	3,837
1923	3,751
1922	3,628 excluding Harton.
1921	3,804 including Harton.

NUMBER OF FAMILIES OR SEPARATE OCCUPIERS.

<i>Year.</i>	
1925	3,965
1924	3,875
1923	3,802
1922	3,679 excluding Harton.
1921	3,970 including Harton.

Rateable Value—£150,232.

Sum represented by a Penny Rate—£626.

Social Conditions.

These remain the same as in the last 5 years. There are two Collieries in the Area, one at Boldon Colliery, and one at Marsden. The other works include, a Bakery, Insulating Product Works, and a Paper Mill. During the year, owing to a coal dispute, both Boldon Colliery and Whitburn Colliery have been idle for some months.

Extracts from Vital Statistics of the Year 1925.

TOTAL BIRTHS AND DEATHS REGISTERED FOR 1925.

Total Population, 18,020.

BIRTHS.

<i>Uncorrected.</i>		<i>Corrected.</i>		<i>Birth Rate Corrected.</i>
<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	
181	197	191	202	21.2
<i>Legitimate.</i>		<i>Legitimate.</i>		
179	194	186	195	
<i>Illegitimate.</i>		<i>Illegitimate.</i>		
2	3	5	7	

The Number of Births belonging to the District was 393, as against 379 in 1924, 430 in 1923, and 402 in 1922.

DEATHS.

<i>Total Deaths Registered.</i>	<i>Transferable Deaths Inward. Outward.</i>		<i>Deaths under 1 year.</i>	<i>Deaths at all Ages.</i>	<i>Rate.</i>
211	47	7	42	251	

The Number of Deaths actually belonging to the District was 251, as against 220 in 1924, 176 in 1923, and 214 in 1922.

The Total Number of Deaths of Children under 1 year of age was 42, as against 34 in 1924, 28 in 1923, and 50 in 1922.

Deaths from Measles 4, Scarlet Fever 1, Whooping Cough 14, Diphtheria 0. Deaths from Influenza 13, Deaths from Diarrhoea under 2 years of age 5.

Zymotic Death-Rate, 1.05. Death-rate from Phthisis, 0.9.

Respiratory Death-rate, 1.9. Death-rate from Pneumonia, 1.1. Death-rate from Influenza, 0.7.

Number of Women dying in or in consequence of Child-birth—From Sepsis, 1. Other causes, 4.

TABLE I.

BIRTHS, DEATHS, AND INFANT MORTALITY RATES
FOR THE PAST 10 YEARS.

<i>Year.</i>	<i>Birth Rate.</i>	<i>Death Rate.</i>	<i>Infant Mortality per 1,000 Births.</i>
1916	21.6	17.8	128
1917	24.0	17.0	72
1918	21.1	21.5	154
1919	23.0	16.7	135
1920	29.7	13.9	92
1921	26.4	11.3	110
1922	22.9	12.1	124
1923	24.0	9.8	65
1924	20.9	12.1	89
1925	21.2	13.9	106
Average for 10 years	23.4	14.6	107

TABLE II.

ANALYSIS OF DEATH RATES FOR THE PAST 10 YEARS.

<i>Year.</i>	<i>Zymotic.</i>	<i>Phthisis.</i>	<i>Respiratory.</i>	<i>Infant Mortality (altogether).</i>
1916	1.1	1.6	2.0	42
1917	0.3	0.9	2.3	39
1918	0.4	1.5	3.2	55
1919	1.8	1.2	2.8	52
1920	1.2	0.8	2.1	46
1921	0.7	0.6	2.3	55
1922	0.2	0.9	2.3	50
1923	1.1	0.8	1.5	28
1924	0.8	0.5	1.9	34
1925	1.05	0.9	1.9	42
<hr/>				
Average for 10 years	0.8	0.9	2.2	44
<hr/> <hr/>				

INFECTIOUS DISEASES AND NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

The number of cases notified during the year was 201.

The notification of Chickenpox was from August to the end of the year.

114 cases of Scarlet Fever were notified, as against 75 in 1924, and 36 in 1923.

Only 2 cases of Enteric Fever were reported, one being Para Typhoid.

3 cases of Ophthalmia Neonatorum were notified, and 1 case of Encephalitis Lethargica.

21 cases of Diphtheria notified, as against 25 in 1924.

TUBERCULOSIS.

Table IV. shows that 50 cases of Tuberculosis were notified during the year, of which 31 were pulmonary cases and 19 non-pulmonary. In the preceding year 37 cases were notified. The number of deaths from pulmonary tuberculosis was 18, as against 10 in the year 1924, and 11 from other forms of tuberculosis, compared with 8 in the preceding year.

CASES ADMITTED TO THE FEVER HOSPITAL FROM THE RURAL DISTRICT.

Scarlet Fever, 103. Enteric Fever, 2. Pneumonia, 3. Diphtheria (carrier), 1. Total Deaths, 2.

CASES ADMITTED TO THE FEVER HOSPITAL FROM THE SOUTHWICK URBAN DISTRICT.

Scarlet Fever, 26. Enteric Fever, 2. Total Deaths, 0.

TOTAL NUMBER OF CASES ADMITTED TO THE RURAL DISTRICT AND SOUTHWICK URBAN DISTRICT JOINT FEVER HOSPITAL.

Scarlet Fever, 129. Enteric Fever, 4. Pneumonia, 3. Diphtheria, 1. Total, 137. Total Deaths, 2.

Anti-Diphtheritic Serum (Anti-toxin) is supplied by your Council free of charge. The serum is under the care of the Medical Officer of Health, and kept at his house, and is supplied on request to the Medical Men in the District.

Disinfectants are supplied for each infected house. The disinfectants used were Thymo-Creolin Fluid, and Powder, Formalin Tablets for use in a Formalin Lamp, and Sulphur Cakes for Ignition. In most cases, infected bedding is removed to the Fever Hospital in a covered-in Van, and disinfected by steam, and dried by heated air in the Disinfector, and then returned to the Owner,

No "return cases" of Scarlet Fever occurred. One case, a Diphtheria Carrier was notified, and was isolated in Hospital, and since her discharge no cases were traceable to infection from her.

HOSPITAL TREATMENT OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Special attention was paid to the number and variety of complications occurring in the course of illnesses treated at the Fever Hospital. The following list of complications was noted, all in Scarlet Fever cases :—

- (1) Adenitis, 9.
- (2) Scarletinal Nephritis, 2.
- (3) Otorrhoea, 4.
- (4) Epistaxis, 1.
- (5) Mastoid Abscess, 1.
- (6) Acute Rheumatism, 1.

HOSPITALS PROVIDED OR SUBSIDIZED BY THE LOCAL AUTHORITY, OR BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL.

TUBERCULOSIS	{	The arrangements in respect of Tuberculosis and Maternity and Child Welfare are in the hands of the County Council, and the facilities provided by the County Council apply to the Rural District.
MATERNITY		
CHILDREN		

FEVER.—FOR FEVER CASES.—The South Shields Rural and Southwick Urban Joint Hospital, consisting of 30 beds for the use of Enteric and Scarlet Fever Cases.

SMALLPOX.—FOR SMALLPOX CASES.—The Joint White-leas Smallpox Hospital, provided by the North East Durham Joint Smallpox Hospital Board, of which the South Shields Rural District Council is one of the constituent authorities.

TABLE III.—NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (INFECTIOUS). SEASONAL INCIDENCE.

The following table shows the Number of Cases notified in each Month of the year 1925.

DISEASES.	Total.	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	Total.
Smallpox .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Scarlet Fever	114	10	18	31	16	16	7	4	2	4	..	2	4	114
Diphtheria	21	2	6	5	..	..	2	1	2	..	2	1	..	21
Enteric and Paratyphoid	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	2
Erysipelas	9	..	1	3	1	..	..	..	..	1	1	1	1	9
Chickenpox	29	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	2	3	5	16	29
Puerperal Fever	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1
Encephalitis Lethargica	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	3	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	3
Primary Pneumonia....	12	..	1	2	3	..	1	1	..	..	..	3	1	12
Broncho Pneumonia....	8	1	1	1	1	..	1	..	..	1	1	—	1	8
Influenzal Pneumonia ..	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Total	201	14	27	43	21	16	11	9	7	10	8	12	23	201

N.B.—Chickenpox was made notifiable during the year from August.

TABLE VI.—TUBERCULOSIS.

The following Table shows the Number of New Cases of Tuberculosis classified according to Sex and Age Groups, and Deaths during the year 1925.

	NEW CASES.				DEATHS.			
	Pulmonary.		Non Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
Under 1 year .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1-5 years	1	1	1	2	..	..	..	3
5-10 years	2	2	2	3	..	1	2	1
10-15 years	2	2	..	..	..	1	..	1
15-20 years	1	4	1	2	2	2	1	1
20-25 years	3	..	2	1	1	2	..	..
25-35 years	4	2	2	1	1	1	1	..
40-45 years	1	2	..	1	3	2	..	..
45-50 years	3	1	..	..	1	..	1	..
55-65 years .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
65 and upwards .....	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	..
Total	17	14	8	11	8	10	5	6

CAUSES OF DEATH IN SOUTH SHIELDS RURAL DISTRICT, 1925.

CAUSES OF DEATH (Civilians only).	Males	Fe- males	CAUSES OF DEATH (Civilians only).	Males	Fe- males
ALL CAUSES	126	125			
1 Enteric Fever .....	..	..	26 Puerperal sepsis.....	..	1
2 Smallpox .....	..	..	27 Other accidents and dis- diseases of pregnancy and parturition .....	..	4
3 Measles	3	1	28 Congenital debility and malformation, prema- ture birth	6	8
4 Scarlet Fever	1	..	29 Suicide	2	..
5 Whooping Cough.....	8	6	30 Other deaths from violence	5	1
6 Diphtheria .....	..	..	31 Other defined diseases ..	22	22
7 Influenza	4	9	32 Causes ill-defined or un- known .....	..	..
8 Encephalitis Lethargica..	..	..	Special Causes (included above)—		
9 Meningococcal Meningitis	..	..	Poliomyelitis .....	..	..
10 Tuberculosis of respiratory system	8	10	Polioencephalitis .....	..	..
11 Other tuberculous diseases	5	6	Deaths of Infants under 1 year—		
12 Cancer, malignant disease	10	11	Total	19	21
13 Rheumatic fever.....	..	2	Illegitimate.....	1	1
14 Diabetes	1	2	TOTAL BIRTHS	191	202
15 Cerebral haemorrhage, etc.	8	10	Legitimate	186	195
16 Heart disease	12	7	Illegitimate.....	5	7
17 Arteria-sclerosis	4	2	POPULATION	18,020	
18 Bronchitis.....	7	6			
19 Pneumonia (all forms) ..	9	11			
20 Other respiratory diseases	2	1			
21 Ulcer of stomach or duo- denum	1	1			
22 Diarrhoea, etc., (under 2 years)	2	3			
23 Appendicitis and typhilitis	2	..			
24 Cirrhosis of liver	1	..			
25 Acute and chronic neph- ritis	3	1			

GENERAL REGISTER OFFICE,

SOMERSET HOUSE,

LONDON, W.C. 2.

MARCH, 1926.

BIRTH-RATE, DEATH-RATE, AND ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1925.

(Provisional figures. The rates for England and Wales have been calculated on a population estimated to the middle of 1925, while those for the towns have been calculated on populations estimated to the middle of 1924. The mortality rates refer to the whole population as regards England and Wales, but only to civilians as regards London and the groups of towns.)

	Birth-rate per 1,000 Total Populat on.	ANNUAL DEATH-RATE PER 1,000 POPULATION.								RATE PER 1,000 BIRTHS.		PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL DEATHSI			
		All Causes.	Enteric Fever.	Smallpox.	Measles.	Scarlet Fever.	Whooping Cough.	Diphtheria.	Influenza.	Violence.	Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under Two years).	Total Deaths under One Year.	Causes of Death certified by Registered Medical Practitioners.	Inquest Cases.	Uncertified Causes of Death.
England and Wales ..	18.3	12.2	0.01	0.00	0.13	0.03	0.15	0.07	0.32	0.47	8.4	75	92.1	6.9	1.0
105 County Boroughs and Great Towns, including London ..	18.8	12.2	0.01	0.00	0.17	0.03	0.18	0.09	0.30	0.43	10.8	79	92.1	7.3	0.6
157 Smaller Towns (1921 Adjusted Popu- lations 20,000 50,000)	18.3	11.2	0.01	0.00	0.15	0.02	0.14	0.06	0.31	0.38	7.6	74	93.0	5.9	1.1
London	18.0	11.7	0.01	0.00	0.08	0.02	0.19	0.11	0.23	0.46	10.2	67	91.1	8.9	0.0

LABORATORY WORK.

Bacteriological Examinations are undertaken by the University of Durham College of Medicine, Newcastle-on-Tyne, by arrangement with the County Council.

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS FOR YEAR 1925.

NATURE OF EXAMINATION.

Swabs for Diphtheria Bacilli.....	9
Sputum for Tubercle Bacilli	27
Blood for Widal Re-action.....	3

RESULTS OF EXAMINATIONS.

For Diphtheria Bacilli—Negative, 8. Positive, 1.
 For Tubercle Bacilli—Negative, 23. Positive, 4.
 For Typhoid Bacilli—Negative, 2. Positive, 1.

The number of examinations made was 39, as against 18 in the year 1924, and 22 in the year 1923.

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

CASES.

<i>Notified.</i>	<i>Treated</i>		<i>Vision</i>
	<i>At Home.</i>	<i>In Hospital</i>	<i>Unimpaired.</i>
3	1	2	3
<i>Vision.</i>	<i>Total</i>		
<i>Impaired.</i>	<i>Blindness.</i>		<i>Deaths.</i>
—	—		—

CLOSURE OF SCHOOLS.

No Schools were closed during the year for illness or epidemics. In the previous year four Schools were closed owing to the prevalence of Scarlet Fever, Mumps, and Influenza.

SUMMARY OF NURSING ARRANGEMENTS, HOSPITALS, etc., FOR THE DISTRICT.

PROFESSIONAL NURSING IN THE HOME—

- (a) General—Nil.
- (b) For Scarlet Fever and Enteric Fever. The Isolation Hospital.
- (c) For Measles, Diphtheria, etc.—Nil.
- (d) For Smallpox—The Joint Whiteleas Smallpox Hospital, provided by the Joint Smallpox Hospital Board.
- (e) Maternity—Nil.
- (f) Children—Nil.
- (g) Tuberculosis—Nil.

MIDWIVES.—There are two Midwives in the District, acting under the Durham County Council. One lives at Boldon Colliery, and one at Whitburn. One other Midwife practices at Whitburn in a private capacity.

CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.—A Clinic for Children under 5 years of age, is held at the P.M. Hall, Hedworth Lane, Boldon Colliery, once a week, under the supervision of the County Council, and a Welfare Centre has been opened in the Parish of Whitburn.

Day Nurseries, School Clinics—Nil.

TUBERCULOSIS CASES.—These can attend the Tuberculosis Dispensaries at Jarrow and Sunderland.

VENEREAL CASES.—At the Hospitals in the immediate Towns.

MEDICAL INSPECTION OF SCHOOL CHILDREN.—The County Council is the authority for this purpose.

HEALTH VISITOR.—There are two resident Health Visitors for the District, provided by the County Council.

Institutional Provision for Unmarried Mothers, Illegitimate Infants, and Homeless Children in the Area—Nil.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.—

- (a) For Infectious Cases.—A horse ambulance provided by the Joint Fever Hospital.
- (b) For non-infectious, and Accident Cases—Nil.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITY.

The Staff consists of the Clerk, Surveyor, and Sanitary Inspector—all whole time officials, and the Medical Officer (part-time). Half of the Salaries of the Medical Officer of Health, and the Sanitary Inspector are recovered from the County Council. In addition, there is a Deputy Clerk—Accountant, and an Assistant Surveyor. The Medical Officer of Health, in addition, holds the following Public Offices :—

- (a) District Medical Officer and Public Vaccinator.
- (b) Medical Officer to the Joint Fever Hospital.
- (c) Medical Officer to the Post Offices at Boldon and Boldon Colliery.

The Sanitary Inspector is an Associate of the Royal Sanitary Institute of London (by Exam.)

HOSPITALS AVAILABLE FOR THE DISTRICT.

The Royal Infirmary,	Newcastle-on-Tyne.
The Eye Infirmary,	do.
The Ear and Throat Hospital,	do.
The Children's Hospital,	do.
The Royal Infirmary,	Sunderland.
The Eye Hospital,	do.
The Children's Hospital,	do.
The Monkwearmouth & Southwick Hospital,	Sunderland.
The Ingham Infirmary,	South Shields.
The South Shields Harton Union Hospital.	
Durham County Asylum,	Sedgefield.

ADOPTIVE ACTS.

On the application of the Rural District Council the following Acts or parts of Acts have been put into force in the Rural District during the year 1925, by Orders of the Minister of Health, namely :—

<i>Date of Order of Minister of Health.</i>	<i>Act or part of Act.</i>	<i>In force in</i>
1925. 7th March ..	Section 47 (Public Conveniences and Lavatories) of the Public Health Acts, Amendment Act, 1907.	Parish of Whitburn.
14th April ..	Private St. Works Act, 1892.	Parishes of Boldon, Boldon Colliery & Whitburn.

14th April ..	Section 19 (Urgent Repairs to Private Street) of the Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907.	Parishes of Boldon, Boldon Colliery & Whitburn.
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The question of adopting the valuable provisions contained in the Public Health Act, 1925, is receiving the careful consideration of the Rural District Council.

BYELAWS.

New Byelaws with respect to New Streets and Buildings in the Rural District were made by the Council on the 29th July, 1925, and allowed by the Minister of Health on the 28th November, 1925, and came into force on the latter date.

Byelaws with respect to Tents, Vans, Sheds, and Similar Structures used for human habitation in the Rural District, were made by the Council on the 22nd December, 1924, and allowed by the Minister of Health on the 1st April, 1925, and came into force on the latter date.

TABLE SANITARY CONVENIENCES.

The following is a list of the various Sanitary Conveniences in use in the District, as compared with the years 1920, 1921, 1922, 1923, and 1924.

	1925	1924	1923	1922	1921	1920
Ashpit Privies..	40	54	65	71	78	84
Ash-closets	2,720	2,715	2,704	2,707	2,717	2,834
Water-closets ..	1,773	1,635	1,527	1,395	1,245	1,161
Ash Receptacles	1,397	1,259	1,151	1,019	873	826

The large reduction in the number of ash-pit privies, and the increased number of water-closets is satisfactory to note.

SCAVENGING AND REFUSE DISPOSAL.

The scavenging of the District is let out to Contractors in Sections by yearly Contracts. The Sanitary Inspector reports that on the whole it has been well done, with the exception of the Whitburn District, where it was found necessary to cancel the Contract, and re-let it. Since then, the work has been done in a satisfactory manner.

The refuse is easily disposed of, either on to agricultural land, or on to allotments. In one or two instances, it has been found necessary to serve notices on to the holders of the land, to have the refuse ploughed or dug in as soon as possible, otherwise there is no reason for complaint. At Marsden Colliery, the whole of the house refuse is tipped from a shoot into the sea.

All scavenging carts have covers.

Disinfectant powder is freely used after each cleansing.

91 Notices were served for neglect.

SMOKE NUISANCE.

No complaints were received of smoke nuisance from Factories or Workshops.

WATER SUPPLY.

All the houses in the District are supplied with water by the Sunderland and South Shields Water Co., with the exception of some outlying farms, which derive their supply from wells, most of which are satisfactory. The Water supply is constant, and is wholesome. No complaint as to the quality of the water has been received and in no case has any disease been traced to the water supply. The nature of the water is hard.

SOURCE OF WATER.—From wells, which have been bored for, sunk, and then pumped from there into reservoirs, and distributed. The water is derived from Humbleton Hill, Stoneygate, Burdon, Seaton Bank Top, Down Hill West Boldon, Thorpe, and Ryhope.

STREAMS.—No pollution of streams has been reported during the year 1925.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

The whole of the drainage is by piped sewers. The sewerage from West and East Boldon is carried eastwards to the Sea, discharging into it below low water mark, north of the Bents Village. That from Boldon Colliery, Whiteleas, and Monkton is directed northwards, discharging into the Tyne, opposite Jarrow Slake.

The drainage of Boldon Colliery, not being considered satisfactory, your Council decided to consult a Sanitary Engineer as to the requirements necessary. His report has now been received, and will be considered shortly by your Council.

BOLDON COLLIERY AND MARSDEN COLLIERY.

In my Annual Report for the year 1924, I reported on the condition of the streets, backyards, etc., of the houses in these villages. The work necessary to make these sanitary was commenced with, but owing to the stoppage of work, not proceeded with.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

This work is under the control of the County Council, and carried out by their Inspectors.

DAIRIES, COW-SHEDS, AND MILKSHOPS.

In the Rural District, there are 68 Cowkeepers and Wholesale Traders, and 72 Retail Purveyors of Milk on the Register, an increase of 2 in each case since last year.

The number of Cowsheds in the District is 102, which house 726 milch cows. The cubic air space per cow averages 760 cubic feet. The cowsheds and milkshops are inspected at least twice a year, and have been found on the whole to be kept in a sanitary condition. I hope that shortly an additional order, or Act will be put into force, insuring Clean Milk Production and Distribution.

14 Notices were served for Choked Drains, Lime-washing, Accumulations of Dung, and for Storing Milk in unsuitable places such as pantries and for uncovered vessels.

Milk and Dairies (Consolidation) Act, 1915, Milk and Dairies (Amendment) Act, 1922, and the Dairies, Cowsheds and Milk Shops Orders.

- (1) Re Tuberculosis Milk and Tuberculosis Cattle.
Action taken—Nil. This order is administered by the County Council.
- (2) See Total Licenses granted for the Sale of Milk.
No apparatus is in use for the pasteurisation of Milk.
- (3) Nil.
- (4) Nil.

QUANTITY OF MILK.

The Milk produced in the area appears to be of a pure, and wholesome character. No complaints were received either by the Sanitary Authority, or from the County Council Inspector of Food and Drugs.

UN SOUND MEAT.

The following meat was condemned as unfit for human consumption :—

2 carcasses of sheep, owing to milk fever, and 3 carcasses of imported sheep.

1 calf.

24lbs. of Beef and 34 livers and Hearts, affected with Tuberculosis.

DISTRIBUTION OF MEAT.

In 16 instances the Inspector complained of meat being carried from butchers' shops in uncovered baskets. Meat is now being wrapped in clean white paper, or in linen towels.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES ORDER, 1924.

The number of Slaughterhouses in the District is 11 and Butchers' Shops 16. All were found to be kept in a fairly sanitary condition. 23 notices were served for cleansing, lime-washing, etc.

THE PUBLIC HEALTH (MEAT) REGULATIONS, 1924.

The Sanitary Inspector reports as follows :—

Re Licensed Slaughterhouses.

“ A correct supervision of every animal slaughtered in the district is impossible, owing to the fact that the butchers do not keep regular days and hours for slaughtering, due they assert to the irregular hours of arrival of the cattle from delay in transit, etc. For this reason the regular slaughtering hours filled in by them cannot be relied on.”

TABLE VII.

NUMBER OF PRIVATE SLAUGHTERHOUSES
IN USE IN THE AREA.

	In 1920.	In January, 1925.	In December 1925.
Registered.....	Nil.	11	11
Licensed .....	..	..	..
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total .....	..	11	11
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

HOUSING STATISTICS FOR THE LAST 5 YEARS.

NUMBER OF HOUSES ERECTED AND
OCCUPIED.

	1	2	3	4	5
Year.	No. of Houses erected by Private Enterprise with- out Financial Assistance.	No. of Houses erected with Assistance under Housing Acts of 1919 & 1923 (By private enterprise).	No. of Houses erected by the Council under Housing Act, 1919, excluding a Harton and Jarrow Corporation Scheme.	No. of Houses in course of erection by the Council to be let on Special Con- ditions under Housing Act, 1924.	Total No. of Houses Occupied.
1921	36	Nil.	102	Nil.	138
1922	16	Nil.	34	Nil.	50
1923	47	Nil.	36	Nil.	83
1924	9	73	Nil.	Nil.	82
1925	8	112	Nil.	154	87
Totals ..	116	185	172	154	440

In addition the following Houses have been erected in the Parish of Monkton by the Jarrow Corporation, viz. :—

	No.
1921	60
1922	96
1923	50
1924	18
1925	30
<hr/>	
Total	254
<hr/>	

making a total of 727 houses erected in the present area of the District for the 5 years ended 1925.

Number of Dwelling Houses erected and occupied during the year 1925, excluding Monkton Housing Estate, 30.

	<i>Erected.</i>	<i>Occupied.</i>
Boldon Colliery Parish	2	2
Boldon Parish	56	36
Whitburn Parish.....	62	49
<hr/>		<hr/>
Total	120	87
<hr/>		<hr/>

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS ACT, 1901.

There are 23 Factories and 31 Workshops on the Register. Notices received from H.M. Inspector of Factories have had attention, with the exception of one, and this was for no intervening space between a Water-Closet and a Workshop at Boldon Colliery, on completing this report the notices served are being complied with.

Notices were served for sanitary neglect or defects, viz. :—

1.—INSPECTIONS OF FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS & WORKPLACES

Including Inspections made by the Sanitary Inspector.

Premises. (1)	Number of		
	Inspections (2)	Written Notices. (3)	Prose- cutions. (4)
Factories (including Factory Laundries)	32	5	..
Workshops (including Workshop Laundries)	16	3	..
Workplaces (other than Outworkers' Premises) .....	..	..	..
TOTAL	48	8	..

2.—DEFECTS FOUND IN FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

Particulars. (1)	Number of Defects.			Number of Prose- cutions. (5)
	Found. (2)	Remedied. (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspector. (4)	
Want of Cleanliness	3	3	..	..
Other Nuisances	2	1	1	..
Sanitary Accommodation—				
Insufficient .....	..	..	..	..
Unsuitable or Defective ..	1	1	..	..
Not separate for Sexes ....	..	..	..	..
TOTAL	6	5	1	..

MEASURES OF PROGRESS

made in the South Shields Rural Area, during the preceding five years in the improvement of the Public Health :—

(1).—Private Slaughterhouses throughout the District duly Registered.

(2).—All Wholesale and Retail Purveyors of Milk Licensed.

(3).—Water-carriage System enforced in place of Insanitary Conveniences where the Sewers are satisfactory.

(4).—Several Cowsheds and Dairies re-modelled.

(5).—Overcrowding :—Complete Census Return of the Working Class Houses throughout the District, as to Overcrowding, also Number of Houses, Insanitary Areas, Unfit Houses, and Population.

(6).—Sewers and Main Drains extended where necessary.

(7).—Public Urinal provided at Boldon Colliery.

(8).—Public Lavatories and Sanitary Conveniences provided at Whitburn Bents for Summer Visitors and the public generally.

(9).—Scavenging of District is carried out by covered-in carts.

(10).—New County Council Schools erected at White-leas (Boldon Parish).

(11).—Temporary School (wooden one) erected at West Boldon.

(12).—Private Streets at Boldon Colliery repaired, channelling re-laid, and modern trapped surface water gullies fixed in place of defective ones.

(13).—The making up of Front and Back Streets at Whitburn Colliery as requested, now in progress.

(14).—151 Back Yards at Boldon Colliery taken up and re-laid with cement, 74 N.E. Trapped Gullies fixed in place of defective ones, 276 Spouts and Downcomers renewed, and 97 Ash-closet Hatches replaced for defective ones.

(15).—Pit-head Baths and Wash-houses erected at Boldon Colliery by the Harton Coal Company for the benefit of the Miners (Welfare Scheme).

(16).—(a) Notification of Births Act.

(b) Maternity and Child Welfare Centres (2).

(c) Tuberculosis Scheme.

(17).—The erection of 154 Houses by the Council by Contract under the Act of 1924, to be let to the Working Classes, in the Parishes of Boldon Colliery, Boldon, and Whitburn.

(18).—The Construction of a Coast Road from South Shields to Whitburn Colliery, at an estimated cost of £120,000. The work is being carried out for the Relief of Unemployment by a Joint Committee of the South Shields Borough Council and the Rural District Council of South Shields.

(19).—Sea Lane Road, Whitburn, widened at a cost of over £18,000.

(20).—Washington Road, in the Parish of Monkton, widened at a cost exceeding £10,000.

(21).—Boldon Colliery New Road re-surfaced at a cost of £10,000.

All these works were done by the Unemployed.

(22).—A New Sewer was laid in the Parish of Whitburn for the drainage of Houses erected by private enterprise.

During the last 5 years the Sanitary Requirements of the District have had close and continuous attention, and in order that the Public Health of the District may be better regulated, the Council have adopted Part IV. of the Public Health Amendment Act, 1890, *re* Music and Dancing, in addition to certain Sections of the Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907, and have made New Byelaws with regard to New Streets and Buildings, and Tents, Vans, and Sheds.

HOUSING STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1925.

Number of New Houses erected during the year :—

- (a) Total (including numbers given separately under (b)..... 150
- (b) With State assistance under the Housing Act :—
 - (i.) By the Local Authority 30
 - (ii.) By other Bodies or Persons 120

1.—UNFIT DWELLING-HOUSES—

INSPECTION—

- (1) Total Number of Dwellinghouses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)..... 164

(2) Number of Dwellinghouses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910, or the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 Nil.

(3) Number of Dwellinghouses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation Nil.

(4) Number of Dwellinghouses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation.... 17

2.—Remedy of defects without Service of Formal Notices 26

Number of defective Dwellinghouses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or the Officers 5

3.—ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS.

A.—Proceedings under Section 3 of the Housing Act, 1925—

(1) No. of Dwellinghouses in respect of which Notices were served requiring repairs .. Nil.

(2) No. of Dwellinghouses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :

(a) By Owners Nil.

(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners Nil.

- (3) No. of Dwellinghouses in respect of which Closing Orders became operative in pursuance of declarations by Owners of intention to close..... Nil.

B.—Proceedings under Public Health Acts—

- (1) No. of Dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied..... 35

- (2) No. of Dwellinghouses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—

(a) By Owners 33

(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners Nil.

C.—Proceedings under Sections 11, 14, and 15 of the Housing Act, 1925—

- (1) No. of Representations made with a view to the making of Closing Orders Nil.

- (2) No. of Dwellinghouses in respect of which Closing Orders were made Nil.

- (3) No. of Dwellinghouses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the dwellinghouses having been rendered fit Nil.

- (4) No. of Dwellinghouses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made Nil.

- (5) No. of Dwellinghouses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders..... Nil.

SANITARY REQUIREMENTS.

(a) Street paving throughout the whole District.

I am, Gentlemen,

Yours faithfully,

WM. ARMSTRONG, L.R.C.P., ETC.,

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

SUMMARY OF WORK DONE IN THE SANITARY INSTECTOR'S
DEPARTMENT DURING THE YEAR 1925.

I.—PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS.	No. of Informal written Notices by Inspector.	No. of Formal Notices by order of Authority.	No. of Nuisances abated after Notice.	GENERAL REMARKS.
Dwelling houses & Schools				
Foul Conditions.....	7	..	7	To cleanse Roofs, Spouts, etc.
Structural Defects ..	63	21	58	
Overcrowding	4	1	1	
Lodging houses .....	..	..	..
Dairies & Milkshops, Cow sheds	14	1	14	To cleanse and Limewash.
Bakehouses	2	..	2	
Slaughterhouses.....	23	..	22	Do.
Ashpits and Privies	41	26	31	Insanitary.
Deposit of Refuse & Manure	16	3	16	Unsuitable Tips, &c
Water closets	29	7	27	Defective or choked
Defective Yard Paving ..	112	15	99	Do.
House Drainage				
Defective Traps.....	17	3	16	
No. Disconnection from Sewers	3	..	3	
Other Faults	26	10	26	Choked Drains.
Water Supply	1	..	..	Waste & Defective
Animals improperly kept	5	..	5	Fittings.
Pigsties	7	..	7	Neglect in cleansing
Offensive Trades .....	..	..	..
Smoke Nuisances .....	..	..	..
Other Nuisances	91	8	91	Neglect of scaveng- ing, etc.
TOTALS	461	95	425	

	Number	Remarks.
II.—WATER, FOOD, AND DRUGS.		
Samples of Water taken for Analysis		
Samples of Water condemned as unfit for use .....	..
Seizures of Unwholesome Food	64	5 carcasses of Sheep, 1 Calf, 24lb. of Meat, and 34 Livers and Intestines.
Convictions for exposing or selling Unwholesome Food .....	..
Samples of Food and Drugs taken for Analysis .....	..	This is carried out by Food and Drugs Inspectors.
Samples of Food found Adulterated	..	
III.—PRECAUTIONS AGAINST INFECTIOUS DISEASE.		
Lots of Infectious Bedding stoved or destroyed	11	At Hospital, and 1 lot Bedding destroyed outside.
Houses disinfected after Infectious Disease.	125	With Sulphur Candles or Sharratt's Fumigators.
School disinfected after Infectious Disease .....	..
Prosecutions for exposure of infected persons or things .....	..
Convictions do. do.	..	
IV.—GENERAL.		
Number of New Houses erected during the year	150	Including Monkton Housing Estate & Subsidy Houses.
Number of such Houses occupied during year	107	Do. do.
Ashpit-privies converted into—		
Ash-closets	3	
Water-closets	11	
Ash-closets converted into Water-closets	15	
Total No. of Water-closets in District	1,773	Increase 138
Do. Ash-closets in District..	2,720	Do. 5
Do. Ash-pit Privies in District	40	Decrease 14.

WILLIAM WELSH, A.R.S.I.,

SANITARY INSPECTOR.

